

# The Palette

January 2025

The Newsletter of  
The Williamsville Art Society

## President's Letter



Happy New Year! Hope everyone had a wonderful time during the holidays.

Friday January 10 at 6:30 will be our first meeting of the new year. For this meeting only, we will be in a different room at the Audubon Library - the first room on the left as you walk in. We will have signs posted.

Our guest artist will be Cindi O'Mara who will be demonstrating drawing techniques.

While we are talking about meetings, we need to address cancellation policies due to that pesky snow we tend to get. If schools are closed and/or driving advisories in effect, meetings are automatically cancelled.

We will also cancel if we feel the weather and driving conditions look "iffy", for the safety of our members. We will send out an email, post on Facebook and our website what our intentions are. So please always check; if in doubt you may text or call me at 716 983-5490. I have asked for no snow issues, but the weather doesn't always listen to me.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who remembered to show up and on time for their shifts. Without you we wouldn't be able to put on our incredible show. Speaking of which, Tammy from the Senior Center was telling me that Highmark Western New York held a huge event there. They were extremely impressed with our show and wanted to know all about us. What terrific publicity!

Another important thank you goes out to Sarah Ferguson who stepped forward to be our Vice President. Sarah is a new member and has already presented some great new ideas for our society. At our November meeting we talked about exciting ideas including showing our artwork at Hyatt's All Things Creative and inviting Seniors from Williamsville and Sweethome School districts to a meeting.

Please join us in January where we will continue to investigate these new ideas and more!

Now that the Holidays are over it's time to start working on new artwork for the Spring Show. We have our work cut out for us to top the excellent quality of art that was presented at the Holiday Show. So let's get started! Create and enjoy!

Always in Art,  
Vicki Oliver, President

To practice art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow. So do it!  
Kurt Vonnegut

## Historian Needed

We are looking for a member to become our Historian.

This is an article about three young artists that the Williamsville Art Society invited to show their artwork back in 1970. One of the artists was me, Vicki Sellig (now Oliver) at age 15. I'm on the left, painting. At that time I never thought that I would become the Society's President. You never know where history can take you.

If you are interested in the position please contact me at 716 983-5490.



### *Happiness is.... doing your 'thing'*

The waning days of summer are busy ones for Vicki Sellig (left), Amy Heebner and Bill Rath as they put the finishing touches to pieces of sculpture, paintings and tapestries they are exhibiting this month at Georgetown Galleries in Georgetown Square, Amherst.

The three have been invited to exhibit by the Williamsville Art Society. Vicki, 15, wants to be an art teacher and includes drawings in both pen and ink as other favorites. Bill, a June

graduate of Williamsville North High School will be exhibiting pencil drawings, tapestries done with braiding and hooking showing various weaving techniques.

Sculpturing on limestone is the speciality of Amy, who will be a senior at Williamsville North in September. Amy is pictured with her 'friend' Friar Tuck which she did in limestone. Her exhibit will also include works of pencil drawings, papier mache and plaster.

## 2024-2025 Meetings

Please note that all meetings this year will take place at a new time and new location: **6:30pm at the Audubon Library, 350 John James Audubon Pkwy, Buffalo, NY 14228.**

**January 10, 2024:** Cindi O'Mara will demonstrate drawing techniques

**March 14:** TBD

**April 11:** Jeanne Gugino will demo gelliplate printing

**May 9:** Deanna Weinholtz

**June 13:** Critiques

## Call for Work

Schweinfurth Art Center is hosting Made in NY, an annual exhibit that features work by New York artists. The exhibit is an opportunity for artists residing in New York State to showcase their work in a competitive, juried exhibition. Prizes will be awarded, including \$1000 for Best of Show. The exhibit is open to all media, such as photography, sculpture, ceramics, painting, drawing, fiber, installation, and video.

2025 Jurors: David MacDonald and Sayward Schoonmaker

The entry deadline is January 27. Please visit [https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals\\_unique\\_info.php?ID=14583](https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=14583) for entry information.

## Exhibits around WNY

**Buffalo AKG Art Museum**, Jeffrey E. Gundlach Building, Floor 1

*Electric Op*

Bringing together more than ninety works spanning six decades, *Electric Op* examines how artists have used abstraction to explore the relationship between perception and technology. While today considered an art historical “dead end” with few echoes in contemporary art, Op art in fact became the first artistic movement of the Information Age, paving the way for art to be abstracted into analog and digital circuits. Just as optical illusions help us “see” ourselves in the act of seeing, Op art can help us see how vision itself has been transformed by electronic media.

## Burchfield Penney Art Center

*Carson Waterman: Art Saved My Life*

Dec 13, 2024 - Jun 1, 2025

Carson Waterman (Snipe Clan, Seneca Nation, born 1944) is a distinguished painter, draftsman, designer, sculptor, and revered cultural figure for the Haudenosaunee people of the Seneca Nation. A prolific public artist, Waterman's work can be found throughout the region.

During his service with the army in Vietnam, the division commander's recognition of his artistic talent led to Waterman's reassignment from the battlefield to the division's newspapers. Years later, he encountered his platoon leader, who had survived a harrowing battle, where only 47 men remained from a full company of 160. Waterman's art had indeed saved his life.

*A Grammar of Animacy: Charles E. Burchfield and Mike Grier*  
Nov 8, 2024 - Mar 2, 2025

The exhibition title acknowledges the concept of a “grammar of animacy” created by Robin Wall Kimmerer, a botanist and citizen of the Potawatomi Nation, to describe the linguistic attributes of the Potawatomi language. She noted that 70% of the words in Potawatomi are verbs, compared to English in which the ratio is 30%. There are verbs in Potawatomi for “to be a hill,” “to be red,” and “to be a long sandy stretch of beach,” which is very different from English, a noun-based language, that seems very well suited for a culture of things. Kimmerer described Potawatomi as a “grammar of animacy” since it has few nouns to indicate uniqueness, but endless verbs to describe the ceaseless exchange between all things. Similarly, Burchfield and Grier invent visual, abstract vocabularies to describe intangible but dynamic aspects of landscape like light, air, sound, and temperature as elements in the visual depiction of a volatile, but glorious, living world.

*Tracing Threads Through Time: The Artwork of William C. Maggio*  
Nov 8, 2024 - Mar 30, 2025

William C. Maggio is a lifelong resident of Western New York. As an artist, educator and musician, his creative influence is a thread that can be traced through time, connecting generations of people. His artwork is a visual journey inward towards the core of the human soul.

## **From the Desk of the Editor**

Many thanks to Vicki Oliver, Deb Meier, and Beverly Amborski for supplying content for this month’s Palette. If you are teaching classes, exhibiting your work, or have a great tip or technique to pass on to your fellow artists, please send your information to me at [dianelorenzi@gmail.com](mailto:dianelorenzi@gmail.com) or you can mail it to me at **Diane Lorenzi, 18 Thomas Jefferson Lane, Unit A, Amherst, NY 14226**. Please note that since we don’t meet in February, the next issue of The Palette will be March 2025.

I am looking for someone to take over mailing The Palette via US mail to our seven members who don’t have email. WAS will reimburse you for ink and postage. Please email me or call or text me at 832-585-7426 if you are interested in taking over this responsibility.

Happy painting!

Diane Lorenzi

